

C. REMARKS

Claims 1-18 remain in this application. Claims 1, 7, 15, 17 and 18 are amended to more distinctly describe the subject matter of applicant's invention and to incorporate a limitation originally presented in claim 5. No new matter is added by these amendments and the amendments. Because these amendments incorporate a limitation already presented for examination, it is respectfully believed that the amendment is properly enterable under 37 CFR 1.116.

1. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over HILL in view of OMG and Hollberg. Because this amendment incorporates a limitation that previously appeared in Claim 5, i.e., "extracting target methods" rather than identifying target methods, this response will also consider the Hughes and Hamilton references that were applied against claim 5.

Claims 1, 7, 15, 17 and 18, as amended, call for various arrangements in which the which client object is configured to extract_methods of the target object. This is described, for example, in the specification at page 4, lines 8 and 9. This amendment is made to clarify that the claims do not call for a client object that merely lists or names the target object methods, but instead that the client object actually "identifies" these target object methods by actively extracting these methods.

The Hill, OMG and Hollberg do not show this feature, which the Office Actions assert is shown by further combination with the Hughes and Hamilton references. However, Hughes simply teaches the introspection ability, called the "reflection API" that has already been set out in the instant specification. It is acknowledged that this functionality enables an object to be examined by another object, however, both of these objects need to be running on the same machine. In contrast, the invention of claims 1, 7, 15, 17 and 18 provide mechanisms, structures, and methods for examining a target object from a client object on another machine through a framework. This is not shown or suggested in the relied on references.

2. CONCLUSION

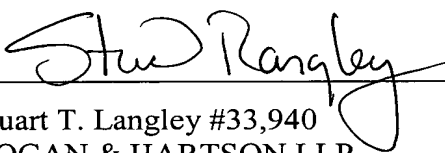
In view of all of the above claims 1-18 are believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. The references that were cited and not relied upon are believed to be no more pertinent than those references that were relied upon.

No fee is believed to be required by this response as determined on the accompanying transmittal letter. Should any other fee be required, please charge Deposit 50-1123. Should any extension of time be required please consider this a petition therefore and charge the required fee to Deposit Account 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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